

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image processing apparatus for processing an image recorded on a recording medium, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an image reading device for reading the image recorded on the recording medium as digital image data, subjecting the read digital image data to predetermined image processing, and outputting processed image data;

means for carrying out a necessary image processing on all of the image data read by the image reading device;

means for carrying out a special image processing on the image data read by the image reading device, the special image processing being specially designated by an operator request; and

means for instructing the special image processing to be carried out by said special image processing means, wherein the special image processing is canceled if at least two separate special image processes are instructed by said means for instructing and said at least two separate special image processes are combined in a combination other than a predetermined combination of at least two separate special image processes that have been linked together in advance as suitable combinations of separate special image processes, and the

special image processing is not canceled if at least two separate special image processes are instructed by said means for instructing and said at least two separate special image processes are combined into the predetermined combination wherein the predetermined combination is a combination of at least two separate special image processes set in advance, wherein the predetermined combination is a combination of at least two separate special image processes set in advance and at least one of said separate special image processes is selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent and ~~Cross Filter~~ processes.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said instructing means gives an instruction in accordance with the contents of a recording medium which is provided for a customer and at which the contents of an order are recorded.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the processing which is performed by said special image processing means is an image processing which includes at least an image structure effect for correcting the overall structure of the image, a color reproduction effect for correcting the color tone of the image, and a special effect for performing a variety of special processings for the structure and the color tone in accordance with the image read by the image reading device.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the processing which is performed by said special image processing means is an image processing which includes at least an image structure effect for correcting the overall structure of the image, a color reproduction effect for correcting the color tone of the image, and a special effect for performing a variety of special processings for the structure and the color tone in accordance with the image read by the image reading device.

Claims 5-7 (CANCELLED)

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a special image processing instructed last is given priority and a special image processing instructed first is cancelled when the predetermined combination of special image processings has been instructed by said instructing means.

Claims 9 and 10 (CANCELLED)

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for notifying an operator of the contents of the special image processings which have actually been instructed by said instructing means.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising means for notifying an operator of the contents of the special image processings which have actually been instructed by said instructing means.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising notifying means for notifying an operator of the contents of the special image processings which have actually been instructed by said instructing means.

Claims 14 and 15 (CANCELLED)

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image reading device includes a monitor which can display an image based on read image data in a plurality of display states including a single frame display state and a plural frame display state, and an instruction issued from said instructing means is only valid when the contents of the image processing of said special image processing means instructed by said instructing means and the display state of the monitor do not match with the predetermined combination.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said image reading device includes a monitor which can display an image based on read image data in a plurality of display

states including a single frame display state and a plural frame display state, and an instruction issued from said instructing means is only valid when the contents of the image processing of said special image processing means instructed by said instructing means and the display state of the monitor do not match with the predetermined combination.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said image reading device includes a monitor which can display an image based on read image data in a plurality of display states including a single frame display state and a plural frame display state, and an instruction issued from said instructing means is only valid when the contents of the image processing of said special image processing means instructed by said instructing means and the display state of the monitor do not match with the predetermined combination.

Claims 19-22 (CANCELLED)

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image processing apparatus for processing an image recorded on a recording medium, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an image reading device for reading the image recorded on the recording medium as digital image data, subjecting the read digital image data to predetermined image processing, and outputting processed image data;

means for carrying out a necessary image processing on all of the image data read by the image reading device, wherein said necessary image processing includes at least one of color balance adjustment, contrast adjustment and adjustment correction;

means for carrying out a special image processing on the image data read by the image reading device, the special image processing being specially designated by an operator request, wherein said special image processing includes at least one of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent and ~~Cross Filter~~ processes; and

means for instructing the special image processing to be carried out by said special image processing means, wherein unsuitable combinations of image processings are prohibited from being executed on the image by said special image processing means and suitable combinations of image processings are permitted to be executed on the image by said special image processing means, said unsuitable combinations of image processings including a predetermined combination of at least two separate special image processes selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent and ~~Cross Filter~~ processes, wherein said predetermined combination includes an erroneous combination of special image processes.

24. (CANCELLED)

25. (NEW) An image processing apparatus for processing an image recorded on a recording medium, said image processing apparatus comprising:

an image reading device for reading the image recorded on the recording medium as digital image data, subjecting the read digital image data to predetermined image processing, and outputting processed image data;

an image processing section storing the digital image data and for carrying out necessary image processing and special image processing, wherein said image processing section for carrying out necessary image processing and said special image processing includes

automatically carrying out a necessary image processing on all of the digital image data read by the image reading device, wherein said necessary image processing includes at least one of color balance adjustment, contrast adjustment and adjustment correction;

selectively carrying out a selected special image processing on the digital image data read by the image reading device when the special image processing is specifically designated by an operator request, wherein said selected special image processing includes at least one of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement,

Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent Processes; and

prohibiting unsuitable combinations of special image processings from being executed on the image by said image processing section and permitting suitable combinations of special image processings to be executed on the image by said image processing section, said unsuitable combinations of image processings including a predetermined combination of at least two separate special image processes selected from the group consisting of LF Lens Correction, Hypersharpness, Hypertone, Facial Expression Improvement, RP Finish, Monotone Finish, Brightness Enhancement, Fine Finish, Portrait Finish, Red Eye Correction, Cross Filter, Mirror, Negative/Positive Inverting, Color Pencil Touch, Poster Type, Posted Bill, Background Exchange and Layer Transparent Processes, wherein said predetermined combination includes an erroneous combination of special image processes.

26. (NEW) The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said operator request designating said selected special image process is stored in a customer specific identification card or a database.

27. (NEW) The image processing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said customer specific identification card includes at least one of a barcode and a memory device.

28. (NEW) The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said image reading device is a CCD scanner.

29. (NEW) The image processing apparatus according to claim 25, said image processing section comprising:

an image memory for storing inputted image data;

a color gradation processing section;

a hypertone processing section; and

a hypersharpness processing section, wherein said image data is subjected to necessary image processing and special image processing in said color gradation, hypertone and hypersharpness processing sections.